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Via ECFS  
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to  
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I get my Internet service from a carrier (Sonic) which exists only because of the competitive access to telecommunications infrastructure required by the 1996 Telecommunications Act. This service is higher-quality and less expensive than that provided by the monopoly carriers (AT&T and Comcast). Were competitive access not available, the monopoly carriers would certainly raise their prices even more and be under even less pressure to provide quality service. So it is important to me that competitive access be maintained.

My understanding is that the USTelecom trade association denies the existence or value of competitive access and is (self-contradicting) petitioning for its removal. This is damaging nonsense; competitive access is necessary to maintain decent Internet access, and it must be preserved.

David Schweisguth